

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Burgers, Beer, Bodywork Prove Menu for Success Lending speedster gets Ebensburg's new Double B Grill out of the starting gate

Ebensburg, PA – 1/2/2004 – Dan Nedwreski has long had two passions: food service, and restoring muscle cars. Who'd have believed he'd be able to combine them into one hot rod of a business? The Progress Fund, that's who. With more than a decade of food service management education and experience, Dan knew he could run his own business. When he saw an underutilized eatery on West High Street with a For Sale sign in the window, he decided to make the leap. Though it needed work, the building fit his vision for a high-quality sandwich shop and beer express with the décor of a 1950's-era car repair garage – minus the grime.

"In this area a lot of people do their own car repairs," Dan explains. They also love wholesome, American food. It seemed like a winning combination.

But when Dan approached banks for financing, they applied the brakes. "I'd jump through the hoops, and the answer was always no," Dan says. "Then a friend put me in touch with Jim Gonsman, and in about a week, it was a go."

Jim is a commercial loan officer with The Progress Fund. "We recognized Dan's experience, the quality of his ideas, and the uniqueness of what he wanted to bring to the community," Jim says. The Fund loaned Dan \$160,000 to cover the purchase of the establishment.

The Double B Grill opened Dec. 1, complete with tin garage signs, toolboxes full of condiments and lights fashioned from gas pump handles. The reaction? "Phenomenal!

I don't even have a sign up yet, but I've been busy every day from the moment I unlock the door," Dan says.

The community, too, is benefiting, Dan says. "We're taking a building that might have fallen into disarray and keeping it open," he says. The Double B is expected to attract muscle car fans and lovers of quality food from Ebensburg and throughout the region. "It gives everybody a place to go to get a good meal." Tune-ups not included.

The Double B Grill is located at 807 West High Street in Ebensburg. For directions or more information, please call 814-472-6337.

The Progress Fund is a Community Development Financial Institution that creates jobs and improves communities by providing entrepreneurial coaching and capital. We serve southwestern and central Pennsylvania and West Virginia, where the resourceful people who forged this nation are exploring a new landscape of opportunities. An outgrowth of Congressman John Murtha's efforts, the Fund was founded in 1997, and has loaned more than \$7 million to more than 112 enterprises, creating or preserving more than 725 jobs. The Progress Fund is an Equal Opportunity Lender. Discrimination is prohibited by Federal Law. Complaints of discrimination may be filed with the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

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